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STATE DOCUMENTS

LINE

MONTANA'S HIGHWAYS

MONTANA STATE LIBRARY

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Helena, Montana 59601

Published bi-monthly for the employees of the
Montana Department of Highways, state-wide.

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November-December, 1974



DEDICATE HIGHWAY 37—Colonel Raymond J. Eineigl, Seattle District Engineer, Corps of Engineers, H.J. Anderson, Director, Montana Department of Highways, Mrs. Inez Herrig, president of the Libby Pioneer Society, and Mrs. Bill Fewkes, representing the Tobacco Valley Improvement Association Board of History, cut ribbons officially opening for traffic the new section of Montana State Highway 37 near the Corps' Libby Dam project, November 24, 1974. See story page 12.

TIPS FOR WINTER DRIVING IN WESTERN STATES

ARIZONA—Studded tires are permitted from October 1 to May 1.

CALIFORNIA—Tire chains are required where signs so indicate. Studded tires are permitted from October 1 to May 1.

COLORADO—Studded snow tires are permitted. The "chain" law provides for closing a state highway to all traffic if weather conditions warrant or for admitting only vehicles with snow tires or chains.

IDAHO—Studded tires are permitted from October 1 through April

15. Signing is used in an advisory capacity.

MONTANA—Studded tires are permitted from October 1 through May 31. Chains or studded tires are required on Montana's mountain passes during inclement weather. Affected areas will be signed.

NEVADA—Tire chains or snow tires are required on streets and highways under snowy or icy conditions. Signs will advise motorists. There are no restrictions on studded tires.

NEW MEXICO—This state does not require tire chains or snow tires. However, there are times that the State Police will not let a motorist pass if he does not have chains or snow tires in the ski areas. There are no restrictions on studded tires.

OREGON—Oregon has no tire chain law but there are "SNOW ZONES" signs to which, at appropriate times, are attached riders with the message

"TIRE CHAINS REQUIRED". In these areas, it's wise to carry tire chains. Studded tires are permitted from November 1 to April 30.

UTAH—Studded tires are legal from October 15 to March 31. The Highway Patrol requires snow tires or chains when travel is hazardous on certain highways, mostly in ski resort areas. Affected areas will be signed.

WASHINGTON—Studded tires are legal *only* from November 1 to April 1. The state may recommend or require the use of chains or studded tires if dangerous conditions exist. The affected areas will be signed.

WYOMING—Tire chains or adequate tires may be required when conditions warrant. Signs will be erected advising the public that the chain law is in effect. There are no restrictions as to the use of studded tires.

CENTER LINE MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF HIGHWAYS

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Helena

H.J. ANDERSON
DIRECTOR OF HIGHWAYS

Newsletter published by the information unit of the Montana Department of Highways, Helena, Montana, 59601. Designed for highway personnel as a state-wide medium of information. All material in this publication may be reprinted without special permission.

BEVERLY GIBSON, EDITOR

Division Correspondents

Billings	James Young
Bozeman	Pat Letendre
Butte	Karen Briney
Glendive	Nancy Siegle
Great Falls	Norma Lawrence
Havre	Edna Hess
Helena	Bev Gibson
Kalispell	Loren Dollan
Lewistown	Bea Knerr
Miles City	Jean Sweeney
Missoula	Clara Neely
Wolf Point	Agnes Hesser

News items of interest to Highway Department employees are invited. They should be given to the correspondents listed above.



MATERIALS SEMINAR—The Federal Highway Administration Region 15 sponsored "Soils Exploration and Testing Demonstration Program #12" October 8 in Helena. Joe Armstrong, geology section supervisor, was in charge of local arrangements. The large crowd attending included personnel from the divisions, bridge, maintenance, preconstruction, construction and materials sections, as well as other state and federal agencies. Members of the traveling federal team demonstrated the latest equipment in field and lab technology utilized by highway departments in geo-technical exploration. Above, Lehman Fox, chief of the materials bureau, tries out some of the equipment under the direction of one of the team members.

(Photo by Marv Kalland)



RETIREMENT HONORED—George Vucanovich, Helena, chairman of the Montana Highway Commission, left, admires with Kermit W. Anderson the silver tray presented to Kermit during the December Commission meeting. Members of the Commission presented the inscribed tray to Kermit who is retiring as manager of the Information Unit. Anderson, well-known throughout the divisions, started working for the Department 7 ½ years ago, as assistant in the information office. Upon the resignation of J. Riley Johnson, he was named to head the office. The Information Unit underwent several organizational changes, and for a period of time Anderson was director of the combined Advertising, Convention and Tours, and Information units. (Photo by Marv Kalland.)

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

Due to the existing paper shortage, the Department of Highways is suspending publication of **CENTER LINE** and the Headquarters Newsletter, **BULLETIN BOARD**.

The Department intends, however, to make certain that employees are fully informed as to pertinent facts affecting the Department's operations or its personnel.

Thank you for your understanding and support.

GASOLINE CONSERVATION TIPS THAT MAKE SENSE

- 1** Have your car's engine tuned at least every 12 months or 12,000 miles
- 2** Replace filters at recommended intervals
- 3** Check the engine choke periodically for free operation
- 4** Keep your tires inflated to recommended pressures
- 5** Observe the new lower highway speed limits
- 6** Avoid jack rabbit acceleration and unnecessary stops and starts
- 7** Use the recommended fuel
- 8** Don't pump the accelerator or "race" the engine unnecessarily
- 9** Plan your driving trips efficiently
- 10** Don't "ride the brakes"
- 11** Turn the engine off if idling for more than a few minutes
- 12** Use the air conditioning only when necessary
- 13** Remove unnecessary weight from your car
- 14** Replace worn tires with radial ply tires. Their reduced rolling resistance can help boost gas mileage
- 15** Form or join a car pool, if possible

Special Award Given



Vucanovich, Hummel, Beckert, Stewart

HELENA—Wednesday, Nov. 13 the Montana Department of Highways and the Federal Highway Administration were presented certificates recognizing their part in the construction and operation of the National System of Interstate and Defense Highways by the American Society of Civil Engineers. The Interstate Highway System was selected to receive a Special Civil Engineering Achievement Award by the Society.

Montana Section President Dave Hummel, Jr. of Billings presented the certificates to Highway Commission Chairman George Vucanovich and Administrator of the Engineering Division Jack Beckert and FHWA Division Engineer Harold Stewart at a Society meeting in Helena.

This is the first such "special" award ever given by the Society in the fifteenth annual Outstanding Civil Engineering Achievement com-

petition. In addition to the certificates presented to all the state Departments of Highways, a bronze plaque denoting the national recognition is being placed near the "zero milestone" of the Interstate system across from the White House in Washington, D.C.

Often called the "largest public works project in history", the Interstate system includes most of the important highway routes of the nation.

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Bozeman

Pat Letendre

Mentioning it in print may be the jinx, but the autumn of 1974 has to rank as one of the all-time best. Each day is nicer than the day before and the absence of snow has been such a pleasant bonus. The many skiers in the division will undoubtedly cease reading at this point in complete bewilderment, but the rest of us are happy.

The hunters have mixed emotions regarding the weather. The few holdout mountain men that we still have (sleeping in tents banked with snow, etc.) are a little upset with the hunting. We would guess that the whole situation balances itself out with the number of "haves" (successful hunters) equaling the number of "have nots" at this time . . . that is, as far as the adults go. In the young man department we have Tom Walker, 15, son of Lorilyn and Jim, maintenanceman II who bagged an elk AND a moose—the same day! Several people have told me I could have gone a long, long time without mentioning that little news item.

Garry Cotant, rodman, and his team-roping partner put Livingston on the map recently at the Ten Steer Average Jackpot at Wells, Nevada. There were 135 teams entered and Garry and Dan Ledbetter won the team roping. They were not quite as successful several weeks later at Las Vegas—but they had a good time and a lot of people remembered them.

Speaking of teams—the flag-raising duo of E.P. Elgen and Pat Letendre are willing to pit their competence in this department against fellow flag-raisers anywhere, anytime! They have the routine so finely timed that the final note of the patriotic song of the day (no matter what it is) rings out *just* as the flags reach the top of the pole. In short, it is not just another task, it is a happy way to start the day.

Larry Williams, project manager; Ole Olson, instrumentman; and Al Lang, engineering aide I, have a temporary office in Twin Bridges while they complete the signing and

delineation job. We are not worrying about their "baching" efforts since they are experienced cooks, one and all.

Two of our ex-maintenance foremen, now retired, have visited us lately. Kenny Jones and Bert Moore, both looking chip-chipper, have been in to see us. They had no particular business, it just does their hearts good to see the rest of us plugging away. And, it does our hearts good to see them looking and feeling so dandy and enjoying life in general.

Another drop-in (by request) was John Prebil. He agreeably accepted a speaking engagement to the maintenance men who attended the safety seminar. Prior to his PM session, Mr. P. answered random accounting and whatever questions at the office. We enjoyed his visit. Incidentally the attendees at the meeting learned a fact or two also.

Harold Roby's happy grin at receiving daughter Christine's diploma from Missoula (with honors) faded rapidly that certain morning when that big, bad pickup got in front of his wee, little Opel at the intersection and CRASH. First time in 45 years, or statistically speaking, one collision every 45 years! Watch out for the next one, Harold. You'll be in serious trouble if the driver is wearing funny red underwear, has horns and a forked tail.

We recently saw an ad in the Billings Gazette that stated very emphatically: "Loss of Hearing is Not a Sign of Old Age." They were trying to sell hearing aids, I believe. It therefore follows, via goofy logic, that . . . "Loss of Eyesight is Not a Sign of Old Age." (This whole leadup is necessary because a boss is involved.) So . . . we don't know what the other fellow's excuse is, but a while back Richard Miller, who wears glasses, parked his car and talked for about five minutes to Jay Randall in another parked car (they worked together for about ten years in the very recent past,) and, after they started down the road, Richard asked his companion who that gentleman in the other car was. Strangely enough, Jay was asking his companion the same question at

the same time. Just thought we would mention it.

Mike Gates, son of Dorothy and mechanic Percy, is manager of the Red Lion Supper Club in Missoula. It is a tad too far to drive for a night out, so you Missoulites, please extend our greetings.

All you Manhattan (Montana) government watchers take note: Roy Swanson, instrumentman, plans to make his "move" in 2½ years when his present, appointed, unsought term as councilman expires. That is, move as in maneuver . . . so watch out.

It can't be for lack of something to do because we do know better, but Harold Alverson runs a trap line. Maybe it's for a fur coat, no, that can't be right. Oh well.....

Floyd Henderson was selected to fill the vacancy created in Livingston when Jim Kirk passed away, and Irvin Yost, transfer from core drill, is now a maintenanceman II at Big Timber. Welcome.

According to our recent poll, there are not many superstitious employees around here (just the poll taker, I guess.) That is good because Rich Saltzman's crew count is 13. 'Nuff said.

Missoula

Clara Neely

It's difficult to realize that we are well on the way toward winter. The grass is still green, the golfers are still going strong, and there isn't any snow for the snowmobilers. Hunting seems to have been a hopeless pursuit for most, although a few did come home with elk and deer.

We have had our usual turnover of help. The college youths have returned to school, and we have rehired most of the fellows who worked last winter in maintenance.

Lorren Claridge and Dean Klakken have moved back to St. Regis, and Cecil Owen, Delbert Braun, and Mike Jovanovich are moving back to Missoula from Saltese. Delbert is recovering from surgery to correct an aneurysm, which doesn't sound too serious, but is a delicate operation.

Lois Baker's husband, Herb, is

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well on the road to recovery now and plans to return to his duties with the Highway Patrol the first part of January.

We were fortunate in getting Karen Albert as a replacement for Jan Allen. She has worked here at various times in the past, and is familiar with the office routine.

Ed Sansom used his vacation to serve as chief cook in a hunting camp. Doesn't sound like much of a vacation, but he has been doing it for many hunting seasons and seems to thoroughly enjoy it.

Jack Seibert is back from Fort Harrison and has been in to see us. He manages to maintain that familiar smile in spite of the torture he has had to undergo.

The Sam Thompsons have purchased a travel trailer and are wintering in the south.

Kenny Lawrence should have a few spare moments now. He and the other members of the Missoula Cemetery Board have resigned en masse as a result of the City Council's attempt to raise the cemetery fees. (You can't even escape inflation in the cemetery.)

George Roat and Teddy Deschamps have moved from the Butte division. George has been assigned to the Bandmann bridge project in East Missoula and Teddy is working with George Maart on the Lothrop interchange.

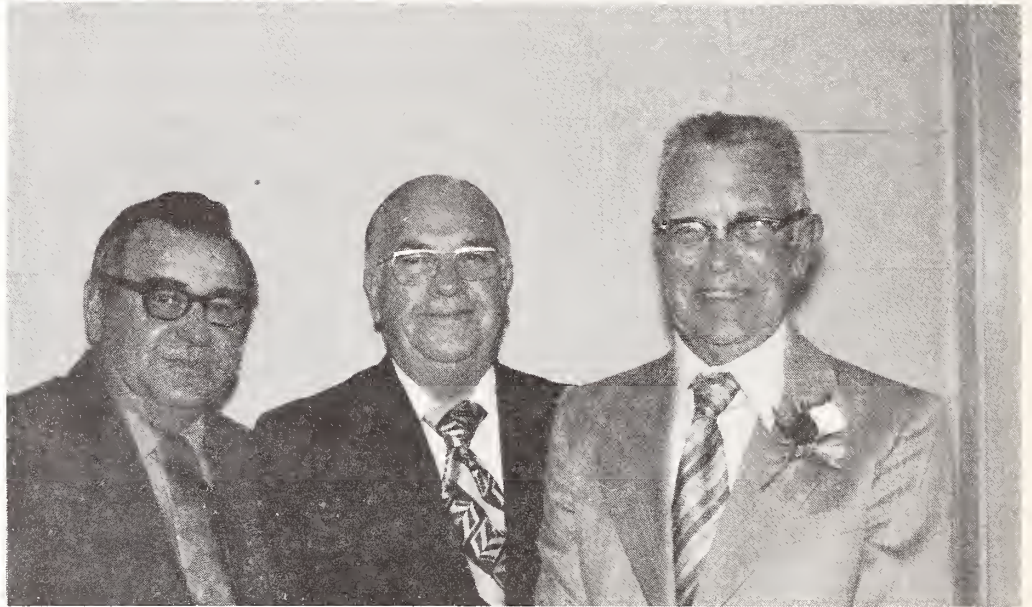
Reservations are pouring in for the annual Christmas dinner and dance at the Missoula Orchard Homes Country Life Club.

Billings

James Young

Jim Binkerd, Garth Hougaard, and Walt Reichenberg were all honored at a retirement party November 15 at the American Legion Post in Billings. The party was a huge success with an almost standing-room-only crowd of friends and family attending. Each gave his own little speech and all were presented with a gift.

Walt Reichenberg, manager-field project unit, retired October 30 after 30 years of service. He was hosted



Reichenberg, Binkerd, Hougaard

with coffee and cake in the main office the morning of his last day with us. Many of his friends popped in to wish him well and with all the flashes going on from cameras, he said he felt like a real celebrity. A coincidence occurred with Walt. He had 30 years of service in . . . he retired on October 30 . . . and October 30 was also his birthday. It was quite the day for him. Walt is now working with a highway contractor.

Jim Binkerd, right of way, will retire December 27 with a total of 21 years service. Jim says he plans to continue with his band, chase women, and drink good Scotch, not necessarily in that order. "That's what keeps you young," he says.

Garth Hougaard, materials lab, will work until February 28 and will retire with 20 years of service. Garth plans to devote more time to his greenhouse and golf.

We extend the best of luck to all in any activity they plan and want them all to know we will miss them.

Construction work on the Lame Deer project has been excellent because of the mild winter weather. The 3.4 mile project begins at the Rosebud county line and extends to the town of Lame Deer, and is on the Northern Cheyenne Indian reservation. The new, wide highway will eliminate the old seven percent hill grade and will include two climbing lanes for slow truck traffic. Also included in the design is curb,

gutter, and concrete sidewalk in connection with a bituminous surface bike path in Lame Deer. The project is under contract with Hilde and Maronick Construction Companies, and is under the supervision of Ray Schaak, manager-field project unit.

Burt Nelson, rodman, retired in October after a long confinement in the Veterans Hospital in Miles City. Burt had been ill for several years and had some trouble walking when he entered the Veterans Hospital for tests. We all wish Burt the very best for the future and we will miss his cheerful company.

Harold McLaughlin, maintenance-man I, came to work for us October 1 in our tire room. He is replacing Russ Angwin, who went out on the bullgang. His wife's name is Mildred, and they have four children, with one, Larry, living at home. Harold worked at B.L.M. Tire Company before coming to the highway department. Welcome aboard!

Gertrude Rykken, radio room, was hospitalized for tests in Billings, and then later went to Mayo Clinic. We are pleased to report she is back at work with a good medical report.

Veronica Messer, wife of Pete Messer, sign painter, has been hospitalized for more tests. Veronica was treated for a heart defect several years ago, and thought she may have to undergo further surgery, but news is now that she will not have to.

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John Grzeskowiak, maintenance-man I, was married to Betty Jane Reese November 22. Betty works at St. John's nursing home. Congratulations to them.

Betty Payne, former steno, and her husband, Jack are the proud parents of an 8 pound 2 oz. baby boy born December 3. Their son, Brian Christopher, is their first.

Earl Brown, office manager, was home with a cold and a virus for a couple of weeks and is now back at work. Earl says his cold prompted one good thing, and that was to quit smoking. Hang in there!

Don Favero, review appraiser, Dale Harcharik, right of way agent II, and Ed Waldhauser, right of way agent II, have completed half of the American Right of Way Association Course 101, "Principles of R/W Acquisition." The 64-hour course is divided into four sections and after successfully completing the training, each member will hold a Senior Designation Certificate with the association. To be eligible, each applicant must have 175 education points and 1200 credits in experience, at least 10 years service for credit points. Each has successfully completed the appraisal segment held in Missoula, and the engineering segment in Helena. Two segments remain to be completed. The law segment will be held in Billings and the final negotiation segment is slated for Great Falls in the spring of 1975.

We wish to extend sincere words of sympathy to John Neudick and family on the loss of his father. Mr. Neudick died of a sudden heart attack at the age of 54 in his home at Moore, Montana, December 9.

Wolf Point

—Agnes Heser—

Congratulations are in order for Gerald Hentges, maintenanceman in Wolf Point who got married on September 14. We all wish them lots of luck in the future.

Charles Stephens resigned from the Department in September to attend the New Mexico Law Enforcement Academy in Sante Fe. We all wish him lots of luck in his new career.

Mr. and Mrs. Arlie Fachner are the proud grandparents of a baby boy, Brett Eric, born to Penny and Dave Rodli on September 22, in Anchorage, Alaska.



Christensen

Joseph Christensen, maintenance supervisor in Plentywood, retired October 1. Joe was presented with an engraved agate ash tray. We will all miss him but wish him lots of luck.

All of the employees would like to extend their sympathy to the Harold Olson, Francis Delaney and Calmer Ersness families in the death of their loved ones.

Lars Mork of Plentywood was promoted to maintenance supervisor to replace Joe Christensen. Wish him lots of luck in his new position.

Donald Hartwell and Stacey Eckert have left us and transferred back to Havre. They had been working with George Nelson's crew in the Opheim area.

Betty Stone resigned the end of November. A coffee party was held for her on November 27. They are expecting an addition to the family sometime in February. Wish her lots of luck.



Betty

Plans are well underway for our annual Highway Christmas party to be held at the Sherman Motor Inn December 14. We hope to have a very good turnout with lots of food and fun.

Bill Petersen had the misfortune of catching his hand in an electric door one weekend. Had his fingers stitched together and bandaged up. Been in a lot of pain but he reports he's feeling pretty good.

Lewistown

—Bea Knerr—

W.G. Ringer, sectionman at Deep Creek section married a Townsend woman. They will reside in the Townsend area. Congratulations to you, Wally from all at the Lewistown division.

The re-classification affects many employees in this section—some good and some bad. Much discussion on the subject has been the coffee-room topic for many weeks.

Madison Miner, maintenance foreman was injured while on a hunting trip. His horse fell with him and rolled over him, injuring his shoulder.

Jess Knerr, 13 year old grandson of Bea Knerr, won second place in his age group in the statewide competition for the Punt, Pass and Kick contest sponsored by the Ford Co.

Billie Furnish and hubby, Ed broke ground for their new home in August. Much thought and preplanning entered into this project. It is growing by leaps and bounds, and they will be moving in before you know it.

Charles Buck, manager-field project unit really likes to hunt wild geese. He brings home the "bacon" each hunting trip—he must know where to go.

Many hunters have been out and Bob Chapman, maintenanceman 5 was one of the lucky ones to bring home his elk.

Mr. and Mrs. A.E. Harcharik and Mr. and Mrs. Milo Lahn pulled stakes and left for Arizona around the middle of November, but they should have stayed as we have had better weather than they have. Isn't

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it beautiful in Montana? (Especially in Lewistown.)

W.T. Murphy, shop foreman is the proud grandpa again. His daughter and son-in-law have another baby girl. Congratulations, Billie and Ken.

The Lewistown division Christmas party was held this year at the Eagles Hall on December 13.

R.W. Freeman was rushed to the hospital last Tuesday evening, but it is not known at this writing what went wrong, but we do wish him a speedy recovery.

The Lewistown division take this means of wishing all a Happy Holiday Season.

Great Falls

Norma Lawrence

The Great Falls division has incorporated a new group into their organization which bears the name "In-House Public Relations Committee." The members are Dale Moore and Tom Hammerbacker from construction, Ed Mans and Ed Osweiler from maintenance, and Nancy Hahn, secretary. These people were assembled in order to try to better relationships within our division by organizing social activities and also be a working committee for the employees. This is a new adventure for us and we hope it will benefit the Great Falls division.

We extended farewells to four great guys recently. Bill Gustafson, R/W agent I, retired after 6 years with the R/W section. Bill's retirement was saddened, however, by the passing away of his wife, Alice. Our sympathies go out to Bill. George Davis, field project manager also said goodbye with 27 years of memories behind him. A smasher of a party was held in the Family Living Building at the State Fairgrounds where he was presented a variety of fishing equipment and "a quart-a-pint-and a small bottle." We are assured he is utilizing his gifts most appropriately. A "double" retirement party was held in the division office with cake and coffee for Jim "Lightning" Ellis, and Albert "Spud" Valacich. Jim was supervisor of the field maintenance



Jim Ellis, left

Spud Valacich, right

section and was with us for 26 years. We presented him with the traditional gift of a copy of his radio truck overflowing with silver dollars and many good wishes for a happy retirement. Spud worked with the R/W section for 5½ years and received not only best wishes, but a Coleman stove and lantern. Jim and Spud were in to visit recently, and along with looking terrific, are enjoying the great life of retirement.

Gene Hodges, our friendly dog trainer, did his thing for society by taking his dog "Eric" to the Deaf and Blind School to perform various obedience drills. (It's debatable who was doing the performing.) At any rate, Gene said it was quite the experience to watch the children become so overly excited and they were so entranced with "Eric" that they would constantly and innocently take Eric off to join in on their play.

For a real coincidental happening, when Charlie King and wife went to "Expo" they sat on a bench to observe one of the exhibits and after a few minutes had passed, turned to see who was sitting next to them. It was none other than our former radio gal, Ciel Tinelli and her husband. When the initial shock and laughter dispensed, they managed to have a nice visit.

Joe Rege became a grandfather for the fourth time, which was an especially delicate treat because it was his first granddaughter. Joe and his wife flew to California to be with

their daughter and welcome Brandy Ann into the world.

The R/W department, has two new faces in their office. Harry McAllister was secured from the permit section in Helena and is now a R/W agent. Harry and his wife will be moving permanently to Great Falls in December. Carl Christianson, formerly having been in insurance, is now an assistant R/W agent. Carl and his wife are local residents. Best of luck to both in their new positions.

The Great Falls Vo-Tech School has some new students in class. Gene Bruno, Pat O'Connell, and Jack Stevenson have enrolled in a photography course. They will be learning the basic fundamentals of photography. We hope they graduate with flying colors.

Not only do we have students, but we also have a teacher among us. Glen Tonkin is instructing R/W agents who are members of the American R/W Association. In order to qualify for senior membership they are required to take these disciplines. Courses which have already been held were an Appraisal Seminar in Missoula and an Engineering Map Reading Seminar in Helena. In the future is a Negotiations Course in Billings. We understand Glen is doing an excellent job of instructing.

Well, the great white hunters of the Great Falls office are at it again. Ross Rennick and Norm Lesofski

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traveled to the East Bitterroot to find that there was neither snow nor animals to be found. Jim Hein can only mutter a quiet and disheartening "no luck" when asked of his hunting expeditions. Jim Ballard didn't bag the big game but is sporting a beautiful pair of crutches. In an attempt to cross a creek up in Choteau, he slipped on a rock and broke his leg. We hope he has a speedy recovery. There were some lucky hunters out of the bunch, though. Jim Trainor found himself a doe up in the Lincoln country and Dale Sirucek, who originally had sheep in mind, brought home a trophy black bear from south of Bozeman. John Walker took his dog hunting this year. It appears he craves the canine companionship and the word is out from his fellow workers that "John has gone to the dogs." We don't know if this is true, but he did return home with a 5 point bull elk.

Our sympathies go to Frank Morgan, supervisor of our Augusta section, whose mother passed away recently.

The Great Falls division winter enthusiasts are anxiously awaiting the big giant snowfall that has not yet moved in on us. It may be coincidental, but we haven't even seen a snowflake since Jim Trainor and Marlin Brackney purchased their new snowmobiles.

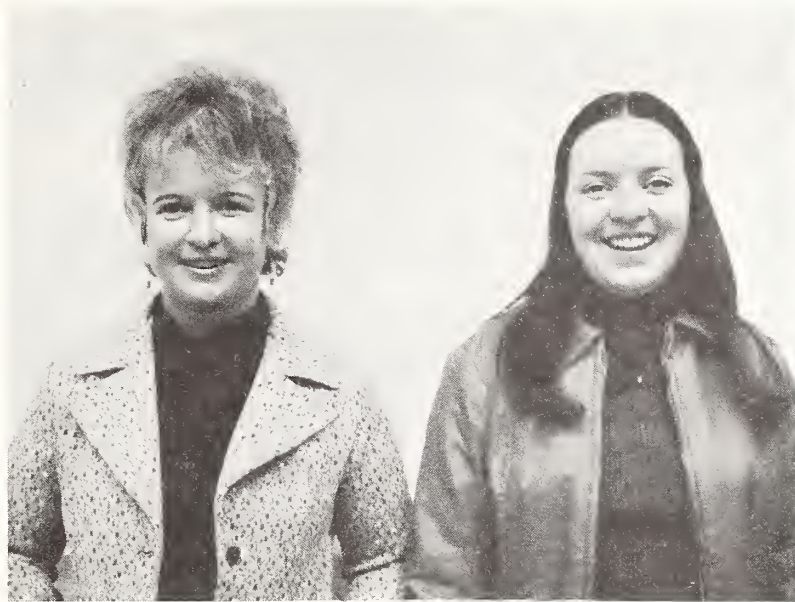
Butte

Karen Briney

We would all like to welcome two newcomers to our office, Carol Ugetti and Nancy Nehls. Carol is a 1974 graduate of Butte Central High School. Some of her activities include volleyball, ceramics and sewing. Nancy is the mother of four and enjoys skiing and hunting.

Congratulations are in order for Mr. and Mrs. Terry Held. They are the proud parents of a baby boy, Russell William. Terry is an engineering aide II on Ray Masters' crew.

Best wishes to newlyweds Joe Kane and Teresa Lazzari, who exchanged vows on November 10. Joe is the son of Mr. and Mrs. John



Carol Ugetti, left

Nancy Nehls, right

P. (Pat) Kane. Pat is the maintenance equipment reviewer for the Butte section.

Bits of Wisdom: The man who never makes a mistake must get tired of doing nothing.

Envy is green for those of us who had to stay behind, while Frank Kane, stockman II flew off into the sunset to attend the Notre Dame vs. U.S.C. football game. Some people are just plain LUCKY.

Evelyn Bootz took a trip back home to South Dakota to spend Thanksgiving with her family. It was reported she had a wonderful time.

Mr. and Mrs. Buck Dundas spent Thanksgiving with their daughter and son-in-law in Missoula.

Sam Stanisich, maintenance supervisor, was busy over Thanksgiving. He prepared a dinner for 32 people. He said the dinner was a great success and was enjoyed by all.

It seems that luck runs with Vin Downing, who recently won a 12 pound turkey, and when asked what he was going to do with it he said, eat it! We thought that maybe he would share it with the rest of us. Next time.

Now that hunting season is over and the tall tales will be told, Ted Selon told a tale, but as it turned out he was telling the truth. He shot a 5 point buck. Congratulations, Ted!

Sympathy is extended to Gary Gilmore on the death of his mother.

Glendive

Nancy Siegle

Terry Diegel, R/W, is the proud father of a little girl born in November. Her name is Rena Ann and she joins a brother, Jeff, 4, and a sister, Becky, 2.

Dave McCloy, manager, field project unit traveled to Bozeman over Thanksgiving to visit two sons and a daughter.

Erna Steffen took a week's vacation in November to spend at their ranch near Richey. They spent the time relaxing and catching up on a little work.

Our radio engineer, Art Gehmert, resigned in October to accept a job with the Bureau of Reclamation. We wish him good luck but sure do miss him.

Darwin Diede, truck driver under 5 ton broke his arm in late November in a fall down a few basement stairs. He's back at work now.

Ed Kessel and his wife, Maggie were on vacation over Thanksgiving. They went to Las Vegas. Ed says the only jackpot they hit was in a telephone booth where they won a couple handfuls of nickels.

Bill Spracklin, Floyd Schram, Ray Evinrude and Walt Miller attended a union meeting in Lewistown in early December.

Dean Knapp, chief, field maintenance bureau is the grandfather of a little girl, born to his daughter, Vicki

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and husband who farm out in the Lindsay area.

The annual highway Christmas party was December 14 at the Montana Inn. A good turn out was expected.

Ray Evinrude is a grandfather again, to a little boy born in early December to his son, Russ and wife.

Kalispell

—Loren Dollan—

Greetings from Kalispell. Well, hunting season and Thanksgiving are over and still no snow to speak of. By the time we read this in the Centerline we will undoubtedly have plenty.

Hunting was good around here this fall but finding was poor, due to no snow, and from all reports a scarcity of game. One of the successful hunters was Norm Nelson. Norm bagged an elk on opening day. Dennis Foy, a draftsman, has venison to last him all winter. Dennis hunts in the Thompson river area where he has a cabin. I am sure other employees in the division were also successful. Ted Sokalowski, a mechanic in our shop, takes hunting parties into the back country each fall. One member of his party wanted to buy Ted's favorite big game rifle and made an offer no one could refuse. Ted refused. Willard Stockwell missed out on his moose permit again. Willard is beginning to believe the drawings are fixed, after so many years as an unsuccessful applicant, and then to see pictures in the newspaper of successful moose hunters who have lived in Montana just long enough to qualify for a license. Better luck next year, Willard.

John Wright, manager, field project unit I transferred to data processing in Helena. The past few years he has been one of our engineers on the construction of Montana 37, in connection with the Libby Dam project. John did a fine job in representing the Department of Highways. We will all miss John and wish him the best in his new position. Eugene McFarlane, engineering aide I, also transferred to Helena where he will work in the core drill section.

Montana 37 was dedicated and opened to the public on November 24. In addition to John Wright, other engineers from the DOH on this were Larry Chezick, August Strobbe, and Jack Adamson.

We have several new employees in maintenance. Larry W. Johnson is on the Jennings section and was a former employee. Larry Moles is working on the Crystal Creek section. Harry Cline is on the Swan Lake section.

Ron Turnacliff, formerly of the Swan Lake section, is the new maintenance supervisor at Crystal Creek.

Our deepest sympathies are extended to the Robert McKenzie family on the death of their son; the Howard Stockwell family on the death of Betty's father; and Gerald Roat on the death of his brother, Arthur.

Norm Baldwin was married to Laurie Greene on November 30. Laurie is formerly from New York.

The stork has been flying into the Kalispell area with the annual bald eagle migration. Bill Hebert, chief-field maintenance bureau, has a new grandson, Jason Allen. First time grandfathers are Earl McLauchlin, with a granddaughter, Erica Rae; and Gene Piedalue with a granddaughter, Charity Ann. Ken and Helen Blush are parents of new girl, Kimberly Kae.

The Kalispell division's annual Christmas party was December 6 at the Outlaw Inn.

Gerald Roat and crew are now in the Libby area for an indefinite period. Their former field office in Kalispell was right across the street from Moose's Saloon. Their new office in Libby is at the bottom of Whiskey Hill. I'll bet if they ever build a job up the Yaak River they'll have an office right next to the Dirty Shame Saloon.

A happy holiday to all from the Kalispell division.

Helena-Hdq.

—Bev Gibson—

Helena headquarters personnel pledged nearly \$3,000 to the United Givers campaign.

Ed Miller and the research section of Planning and Research bureau have been transferred to the materials bureau. In addition to his usual duties of administering the overall research program, he will also develop and manage an effective asphalt pavement research program.

Another recent move was that made by the Labor and EEO Compliance Bureau from the Sixth Ward, downtown to the Steamboat Block. Joseph T. (Gub) Shea, Frank Hays, Vicky Peres and all the rest of that great company are now reduced to fighting for parking places and trying to retain their identity with the Department of Highways.

Another move, and one that temporarily baffled some other agency personnel, was that of the motor pool. And that was only a two-block move. We had several people stopping in the headquarters building, holding keys in their hands, and asking plaintively where to turn in their cars. Personnel now located at 9th and Roberts include Elizabeth Dougherty, Clyde Mayer, Bob Wilmer, Bob McEacheran, and Bill Bridges. Clyde has been on the sick list for some time, suffering headaches and other unidentifiable ills that the doctors can't seem to solve. We hope he will regain his strength and vim and return soon after the first of the year.

Sympathy is extended to Ann Samuelson, accounting, on the death of her husband, Bill; to Ray Hilt, right of way, on the death of his son, Mark; to Betty Cottingham, contract plans, on the death of her son, Mike.

The annual Christmas party was held December 13 at the Civic Center. Music was provided by the "Partnerships" of Great Falls, the best sound heard in a long time.

WITH THE DIVISIONS

Miles City

Jean Sweeney

Don Cahill, son of Mr. and Mrs. James Cahill, lab technician IV, was married recently to Shirley Sebek of Lewistown. Both attended Eastern Montana College and are now employed in Billings, where they are making their home.



Don and Shirley

Jim Clark, maintenanceman 2 with headquarters at Hillside, has resigned his position with the highway department, and with his wife, Terry and daughter, Jackie have moved to the Melstone area where he will be ranching with his father-in-law. The ladies of the Rock Springs area held a farewell tea for Terry at the Gordon Gould home at Hillside. Gordon is sectionman at Hillside.

Mark Sakelaries, son of Chris and Shirley Sakelaris was very seriously injured recently when he fell from a treehouse and landed on a 4 x 4 board. He was rushed to the local hospital where the doctors had to remove his spleen and were in doubt as to whether they could save his kidney, which was punctured in the fall. So far, the damaged kidney seems to have healed and the doctors are hopeful of complete healing. Mark is now back in school after having missed a month of school.

Chris is rodman on Claude Taylor's crew headquartered in Miles City.

Donald L. Hafla, engineering aide, has transferred to maintenance where he will be truck driver under-5-ton, and headquartered at Hillside, where he is replacing Jim Clark, who resigned. Don has moved his wife, Margaret and son, Zane to their trailer home at Hillside.

Truman A. Bovee III, engineering aide I, has transferred to maintenance with headquarters at Boyes, as maintenanceman 2, and is working with Sectionman Bob Morgan. Truman and his wife, Judy are occupying the house that the Gordon Goulds vacated when they moved to Hillside.

We have the 11th annual Highway Christmas Party coming up soon. The chairman for this year's party is Kenny Neumiller and his committeemen are Jerry Branum and Ron Myrvik. This year's party will be held again at the Eagle's Club on December 14. Jerry is bridge inspector, Kenny is rodman and Ron is maintenance clerk in the Miles City division.

Bonnie and Archie LaRoque are the parents of a baby boy born on December 5 in a Miles City hospital. The baby has been named Noel John and he joins his 4-year-old sister Nicole. Archie is instrumentman with Del Borer's crew with headquarters in Miles City.

Miles City and surrounding territory is very fortunate in that the VA hospital recently installed a \$46,000 nuclear medicine scanner for diagnostic purposes. The VA hospital and Holy Rosary Hospital have entered into a sharing agreement which will permit the citizens of Miles City and surrounding communities to utilize the nuclear medicine facilities at the VA hospital, according to Administrator Charles Armon. In a few short years, nuclear medicine has progressed to a rapidly growing specialty which assists the physician in determining the diagnosis and treatment regimen for his patients. This is accomplished with the nuclear medicine unit and radioactive drugs taken orally or intravenously by the patient. The type of drug used determines the

organ to be scanned. The amount of radiation received from the drug is less than the dosage from comparable x-ray studies.

Who doesn't dream of winning something one time or another? For Alice and Charlie Hegg, maintenanceman 4, the dream came true when Alice signed up at a local store and her name was pulled as the lucky one to win a chance for a vacation trip to the Hawaiian Islands in February. Then they pooled the winning names from three different stores of the company, and Alice also won that competition! The Hegg's leave February 13 on their lovely vacation trip. Congratulations, Charlie and Alice.

Hobby: Pipe Organs

By Jim Young, Billings

Herb Noennig, radio engineer, is at it again.

His pet hobby is installing pipe organs.

This time his project is a real challenge. How do you put an 18-foot pipe organ into a ten-foot space, or a rectangular object into a pyramid-shaped space: a pipe organ with hundreds of pipes ranging in size from two inches to perhaps 18 feet long, pipes of wood and steel from 1/4 inch in diameter to 6 inches in diameter, square and round in shape, a large electrical junction box 5 feet by 12 feet by 1 foot wide, add a blower, and base . . . how can it be done?

Drive by the Apostles Lutheran-Wisconsin Synod Church at 3140 Broadwater Avenue in Billings some day and see for yourself the modern designed pyramidal-shaped building and organ.

Herb is doing it. He has made some changes in the interior of the church, some sub-flooring had to be removed as well as a small place in the attic. Air must be piped from the pastor's study closet about 60 feet away, and there are valves to adjust, but he is doing it.

We are always amazed at the talents of this man: radio engineer, radio operator, navigator, and he can translate many languages.

Ribbon Cuttings Mark Opening Of Montana Highway 37

Montana's new highway, No. 37, from Libby Dam to the Koocanusa Bridge, was officially opened Sunday, November 24 with an array of officials on hand.

A reception was held by the Libby Pioneer Society at the Library to start the day's festivities. Following the ribbon cutting, a caravan toured the new road, and tours of the Treaty Tower at the dam were available.

The dedication involved 39 miles of relocated highway along the east bank of Lake Koocanusa. Total cost of the new highway from Jennings to Eureka cemetery is estimated at \$61 million.

The dedication ceremony was sponsored by the Libby Pioneer Society, the TVIA Board of History, the Troy Area Historians, and the Corps of Engineers.

H.J. Anderson, director of the Montana Department of Highways, acting for Governor Thomas L. Judge who was unable to be present, replied to remarks made by Colonel Raymond Eineigl, district engineer, Corps of Engineers, Seattle. Col. Eineigl stated that travelers will be able to move between Eureka and Libby in about one-half hour less time than by using the forest development road temporary route.



Eineigl, Anderson



LARGE TURNOUT—H.J. "Andy" Anderson, director of the Montana Department of Highways, Helena was one of the featured speakers November 24 when relocated Montana Highway 37 near Libby Dam was dedicated.